

**Celebration Lutheran Church**

Pastor: Sarah Toney

Pianist: Annie Chalmers

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Easter

April 12, 2026

*Prelude Music*

*Welcome and Announcements*

**We Gather to Encounter God**

*Thanksgiving for Baptism*

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us including our beloved Columbia River. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

L: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

L: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

L: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn: Now the Green Blade Rises # 379**



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

*Greeting*

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**We pray in song: Kyrie ACS Page 31**

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.  
 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

**Hymn of Praise: Hallelujah ACS Page 31**

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;  
 ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.  
 Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;  
 yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

*Prayer of the Day*

L: Almighty and eternal God,  
**C: ... the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ’s blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**We Hear God’s Word**

*First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>22</sup> “Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know <sup>23</sup> this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,  
 for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
<sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
 moreover, my flesh will live in hope.  
<sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
 or let your Holy One experience corruption.  
<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life;  
 you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

<sup>29</sup> “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
 nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

<sup>32</sup> “This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

Psalm 16

<sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;  
I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

<sup>2</sup> **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**

<sup>3</sup> But those who run after other gods  
shall have their troubles multiplied.

<sup>4</sup> **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names upon my lips. R**

<sup>5</sup> O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;  
it is you who uphold my lot.

<sup>6</sup> **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

<sup>7</sup> I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me night after night.

<sup>8</sup> **I have set the Lord always before me;  
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. R**

<sup>9</sup> My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.

<sup>10</sup> **For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

<sup>11</sup> You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand  
are pleasures forevermore. R

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

<sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Hymn:

Alleluia!

ACS Page 33



Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

L: The holy gospel according to St. John in the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

<sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

<sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

L: The gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

### We Respond to God's Word

Hymn of the Day: Touch That Soothes and Heals ACS #939



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that  
 2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it  
 3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's  
 4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the  
 ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and  
 peo - ple, first and last. Know with - in each act of  
 wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:  
 shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.  
 kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.  
 tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.



Refrain  
 "See my hands and feet," said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. "Be my hands and feet," said Je - sus, "live as



ones I died to save."

### Prayers of the People

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning.

Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way (especially). Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**  
*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

L: Merciful God,

C: ... receive our prayer.

*Greeting of Peace*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*We Offer Our Gifts*

**Offertory Hymn: Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful # 182**

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

L: Merciful God,

**C: ... accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

**We Share Christ's Meal**

*The Great Thanksgiving*

L: The Lord be with you

**C: And also with you**

L: Lift up your hearts

**C: We lift them to the Lord**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Communion Prayers and the Story of Our Lord's Supper*

*The Lord's Prayer*

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Communion Hymns: O Lamb of God**

**ACS Page 40**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
 world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**We Come to the Hungry Feast # 479**



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.  
 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased  
 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
 from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
 and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
 poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
 with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

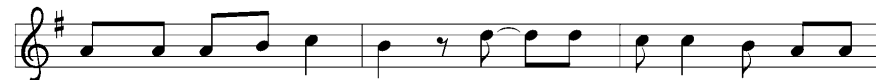
*Post-Communion Prayer & Blessing*

**Sending Hymn: Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises # 535**

*Refrain - sung twice each time*



Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -  
 Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa  
 hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.  
 prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.

*End*



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
 2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

*Repeat stanza, then sing refrain*



I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.  
 strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

*Dismissal*

**L:** Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**C:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**We Go To Love Others As Christ Loves Us!**